

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PANAMA 03631 202136Z
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 SAB-02 USIE-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 INRE-00 /052 W
-----202147Z 111388 /75

O R 202105Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2002
INFO GOVERNOR PANCANAL
USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PANAMA 3631

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PN, PQ
SUBJECT: TREATY NEGOTIATIONS: OBSERVATIONS BY FOREIGN MINISTER

1. AT DIPLOMATIC CORPS LUNCHEON FRIDAY, MAY 20, AT WHICH
CHARGE PRESENT, FOREIGN MINISTER GONZALEZ-REVILLA MADE
INFORMAL REMARKS TO ASSEMBLED CHIEFS OF MISSION REGARDING
CURRENT ROUND OF TREATY NEGOTIATIONS. THE FOREIGN MINISTER
SAID THAT SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN CURRENT
ROUND. HE COULD NOT SAY THIS PUBLICLY BECAUSE THERE STILL
IS NO COMPLETE AGREEMENT AND IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO
ANNOUNCE CONSENSUS IF THERE IS ONLY 98-95 OR 90 PERCENT
AGREEMENT. WHEN COLOMBIAN AMBASSADOR ASKED FOREIGN
MINISTER'S ESTIMATE OF PERCENTAGE OF AGREEMENT REACHED,
GONZALEZ-REVILLA SAID THIS WAS SUBJECTIVE JUDGEMENT BUT
AFTER MULLING IT OVER SAID "OVER 60 PERCENT".

2. ARGENTINE AMBASSADOR INQUIRED WHETHER UNAGREED
40 PERCENT INCLUDED NEUTRALITY ARRANGEMENTS. FOREIGN
MINISTER REPLIED THAT VERY ENCOURAGING PROGRESS IS
BEING MADE ON THE NEUTRALITY CONCEPT. FRENCH AMBASSADOR
COMMENTED THAT CONCEPT OF NEUTRALITY HAS VERY SPECIAL
CONNOTATION RELATING TO STATE OF BELLIGERENCY AND ASKED
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PANAMA 03631 202136Z

FOR MORE PRECISE DESCRIPTION OF SCOPE OF NEUTRALITY
CONVERSATIONS IN WASHINGTON. FOREIGN MINISTER RESPONDED
THAT NEUTRALITY IS A HIGHLY COMPLEX ISSUE WHICH HE
DID NOT WANT TO PLUMB SINCE HE IS NOT INTERNATIONAL
LAWYER. HOWEVER HE SAID GOAL OF THE TWO PARTIES IS
TO ESTABLISH A REGIME OF NON-DISCRIMINATORY AND EFFICIENT
OPERATION OF THE CANAL BOTH IN TIME OF WAR AND PEACE.

HE AFFIRMED THAT NEUTRALITY DISCUSSIONS ENCOMPASS A REGIME APPLICABLE THROUGHOUT DURATION OF TREATY AND AFTER ITS EXPIRATION.

3. IN ANSWER TO THE GERMAN AMBASSADOR'S QUESTION WHETHER OTHER CANAL USERS WOULD BE ABLE TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS OR PARTICIPATE IN THE NEUTRALITY ARRANGEMENTS, FOREIGN MINISTER SAID NEUTRALITY ARRANGEMENTS WOULD BE EMBODIED IN AN INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENT TO BE DEPOSITED IN AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION. ASKED IF THIS MEANT THE UNITED NATIONS HE REPLIED IT MIGHT BE WORLD ORGANIZATION OR OAS, IT BEING UNDERSTOOD THAT INSTRUMENT DEPOSITED IN OAS WOULD NOT PRECLUDE ADHERENCE BY NON-OAS MEMBERS.

4. COMMENT: ASSEMBLED AMBASSADORS, STARVED FOR NEWS OF TREATY NEGOTIATIONS, WERE HIGHLY PLEASED TO HEAR FOREIGN MINISTER'S COMMENTS AND CAME AWAY WITH STRONG IMPRESSION THAT NEGOTIATIONS ARE GOING WELL. SEVERAL AMBASSADORS EXPRESSED HOPE THEY COULD MEET ON CONFIDENTIAL BASIS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER AND PANAMANIAN NEGOTIATORS UPON THEIR RETURN TO RECEIVE A FURTHER BRIEFING ON THE NEGOTIATIONS.
GONZALEZ

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENTS, CANALS, NEGOTIATIONS, NEUTRALISM
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PANAMA03631
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770180-0960
Format: TEL
From: PANAMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770535/aaaabehr.tel
Line Count: 86
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: bf1c408f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2436203
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TREATY NEGOTIATIONS: OBSERVATIONS BY FOREIGN MINISTER
TAGS: PFOR, EWWT, PN, PQ, US, (GONZALEZ REVILLA, NICOLAS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/bf1c408f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009